



GRU 1634

PATENT

Docket No. 2026-4116US2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Bukh, et al. Group Art Unit : 1634
Serial No. : 09/084,691 Examiner : Sisson, B.
Filed : May 26, 1998
For : NUCLEOTIDE AND DEDUCED AMINO ACID SEQUENCES OF THE ENVELOPE 1 AND CORE GENES OF ISOLATES OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS AND THE USE OF REAGENTS DERIVED FROM THESE SEQUENCES IN DIAGNOSTIC METHODS AND VACCINES

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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

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I hereby certify that the attached 1) Response to Restriction Requirement; and 2) Return postcard (along with any paper(s) referred to as being attached or enclosed) and this Certificate of Mailing are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: September 28, 1998

By:

Richard W. Bork
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In a restriction requirement dated August 28, 1998, the Examiner has restricted the claims of the invention into the following groups:

- I. Claims 1 and 3, drawn to DNA;
- II. Claims 2 and 4-5, drawn to protein and claims 32 and 38, drawn to HCV genotype-specific peptides; claims 6-8, drawn to a recombinant method of synthesizing said proteins and recombinant method of making same; claims 9, 17, 47, and 48, drawn to expression vector; and claim 10, drawn to host cell;
- III. Claims 11-14, 33-36, 39-42, and 59, drawn to a method of detecting anti-HCV antibodies, and claims 15 and 37, drawn to a related kit;
- IV. Claims 18, 45, and 49, drawn to method of preventing hepatitis C infection, and claims 16, 19, 20, 43, 44, 46, 50, 51, drawn to a vaccine;

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- V. Claims 52-54, drawn to antibodies; and
- VI. Claims 55-58, drawn to an immuno-based method of detecting core proteins specific for a single genotype of HCV.

In reply, Applicants respectfully elect, with traverse, the claims of group II, claims 2, 4-10, 17, 32, 38, 47 and 48.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

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